

REMARKS

STATUS OF CLAIMS

In response to the Office Action dated September 20, 2007, claims 1, 7 and 9 have been amended. Claims 1-9 are now pending in this application. No new matter has been added.

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

The Examiner maintains that the Title of the Invention is not descriptive and has requested a new Title of the Invention.

By this response, the Title of the Invention has been amended to be "IMAGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM MANAGING IMAGE DATA OBTAINED FROM AN IMAGING DEVICE CARRIED BY A VISITOR TO AN AREA IN A SAME MANNER AS IMAGE DATA OBTAINED FROM IMAGING DEVICES FIXED TO PARTICULAR LOCATIONS IN THE AREA".

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

I. Claims 1-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner contends that the subject matter being claimed cannot be understood from the way that the claims are currently written.

By this response, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the subject matter with the degree of precision and particularity required by the statute. Claims 7 and 9 have been amended to correct grammar and provide consistency. Claim 9 has further been amended to

correct a misspelling of "date". Therefore, it is respectfully urged that the rejection be withdrawn.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

I. Claims 1-8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weston et al. (USPN 6,608,563) in view of Moores et al. (U.S. 2004/0201738).

The Examiner maintains that Weston et al. discloses the claimed system except for outputting date, time and location information of the image. Moores et al. has been relied upon by the Examiner as disclosing timing and location information at paragraph [0045] and the Examiner takes Official Notice that it was well known at the time of the invention to also output date information of an image. The Examiner combines the teaching of Moores et. al. and the Official Notice taken with the system of Weston et al. to meet the terms of the claims.

To expedite prosecution, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite:

An image management system comprising:
a plurality of photographing systems;
at least one camera image obtaining system;
a storage means; and
a managing means, wherein
each of the photographing systems and the at least one camera image
obtaining system is connected to the storage means,
each of said plurality of photographing systems has (i) a second
communication means for receiving identification information for identifying a
subject transmitted from a first communication means carried by said subject, (ii)
a photographing means installed at a particular location for obtaining a first
image data representing an image of said subject by photographing said subject,
and (iii) a first sending means for sending to the storage means (a) said
identification information received by said second communication means, (b) date
and time information of photographing that indicates the date and time of
photographing of said first image data, (c) installation site information that
indicates the particular location of said photographing means, and (d) said first
image data,

said at least one camera image obtaining system *has* (i) a third communication means for receiving said identification information transmitted from said first communication means, (ii) an image obtaining means for obtaining a second image data *which is transmitted from an imaging device carried by said subject and that is different from said photographing means in said photographing systems, the second image data* including the date and time information of photographing that indicates the date and time of photographing of said second image data, and (iii) a second *sending* means for *sending to the storage means* said identification information received by said third communication means and said second image data,

said storage means *stores* said first image data outputted from each of said plurality of photographing systems with said identification information received by said second communication means, said date and time information of photographing, and said installation site information *that is* related thereto, and *stores* said second image data transmitted from said *at least one* camera image obtaining system with said identification information received by said third communication means *that is* related thereto, and

said managing means *manages* said first and second image data by sorting said first and second image data by each of said identification information.

The camera image obtaining system recited in amended independent claim 1 is not the same as each of processor 250 and camera 410 in Weston et al., as alleged by the Examiner.

Specifically, the processor 250 in Weston et al. receives image data from a camera 210 located in a theme park, receives ID information from a RFID tag worn by a subject in the image, and stores the image data associated with the ID information. On the other hand, in the camera image obtaining system recited in amended independent claim 1, an image obtaining means obtains an image data from *an imaging device carried by a subject of the image and which is different from a photographing means in a photographing system*, a third communication means receives an identification information transmitted from a first communication means (carried by the subject) and a second sending means *sends the image data and the identification information to the storage means*.

Furthermore, the camera 410 in Weston et al. is located in a theme park and automatically captures photos. On the other hand, the imaging device of amended independent claim 1 is *carried by the subject*. Finally, the camera 410 in Weston et al. obtains an image data by photography. On the other hand, the camera image obtaining system recited in amended independent claim 1 obtains an image data *which is transmitted from the imaging device without the system performing photography* (see page 19, lines 10-22 of the present application).

Moore et al. does not remedy the deficiencies of Weston et al. Therefore, amended independent claim 1 is patentable over Weston et al. and Moore et al.

Claims 2-9 depend directly or indirectly from amended independent claim 1. Therefore, claims 2-9 are patentable over Weston et al. and Moore et al.

II. In view of the above, the allowance of claims 1-9, as amended, is respectfully solicited.

CONCLUSION

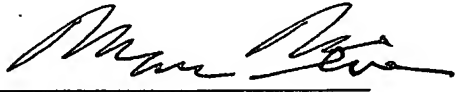
In view of the above, applicant(s) believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Edward J. Wise (Reg. No. 34,523) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 12, 2008

By 

Marc S. Weiner

Registration No.: 32,181

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

8110 Gatchouse Road

Suite 100 East

P.O. Box 747

Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747

(703) 205-8000

Attorney for Applicant